

All the Up-to-date Bowling News and Gossip, with Official Averages

BOWLING WAR LIKELY

St. Louis Bowlers Advocate Changes in Rules.

LOCAL MEN SHOW GOOD FORM

Team Membership to Be Replaced by Individual—Mound City Tournament Has Sufficient Financial Support—Milwaukee in Line for Next Meet of A. B. C. Convention.

By "LEN" COLLINS.

St. Louis tenpin bowlers are on the warpath. They want some radical changes in the rules and regulations of the American Bowling Congress and propose to carry their point at the meeting of the delegates in February. Despite the anticipated opposition of Chicago and other cities, one of their pet schemes is to change the membership in the A. B. C. from club to individual holding. Another is to raise the salary of the national secretary \$3,000, giving him an annual stipend of \$4,000.

The Mound City bowlers anticipate a fight from Chicago on this score, their contention being, however, that should the membership scheme be successful and a fee of 50 cents be charged each individual, half of that would go to the city association, the revenue for the A. B. C. would be greatly increased. The present plan is to charge each club with an unlimited membership \$2 entrance fee. A club may have two or twenty members and gain admittance to the city body for \$2. This is radically wrong, so the Missouri bowlers claim.

It is expected that St. Louis will cast a solid vote for the scheme, and the Mound City may have the assistance of Milwaukee and some of the Eastern cities. If the plan carries it will tend to increase the membership in the A. B. C., as many bowlers are not members of clubs and therefore cannot compete in the national championships.

Plans for the organization of a league of bowling clubs are to be brought up before the bowlers during the coming week. The American Bowling Congress has decided to hold its annual convention at St. Louis. The proposed league is to include the clubs of cities from St. Louis, Chicago, Cincinnati, Louisville, Indianapolis, Cleveland, Detroit, and Toledo. The organization is to be modeled after the baseball league, with schedules including five-man teams, doubles, and singles.

Secretary Langtry's hurried trip to St. Louis when rumors were being spread broadcast to the effect that unless drastic measures were resorted to the eleventh annual tournament of the A. B. C. would prove a "frost" seems to have created an uneasy feeling among those bowlers of the East who were contemplating attending this biggest of all bowling events. The main substance of the rumors seems to have been that the \$25,000 worth of stock in the tournament company, which was to be floated, was failing to be subscribed for in a manner that was causing the officials no end of worry.

That at one time this condition did prevail is not to be denied, but was caused mainly through the tournament company trying to unload the stock on the individuals. The result of their efforts can easily be imagined. It was at this stage of the game that Secretary Langtry was called upon for assistance by the Mound City men, and within four days after arriving upon the scene, every share of the stock had been disposed of. Had the tournament committee tried to dispose of the stock to the business men who, by the way, are the ones who reap a harvest from the scene every year in the first place these rumors would never have originated.

"Abe," as the genial secretary is familiarly called, has established headquarters at the American Hotel, where he can be found at all hours of the day and night receiving enquiries for what promises to be the most gigantic and successful tournament ever held under the auspices of the American Bowling Congress.

Speaking of the tournament to be held at St. Louis reminds us that the local event is not far away and those who have failed to reach a definite decision as to competing in the events should by all means get busy and find out just where they stand. It has always been a noticeable fact that after the entries have closed you can see some of the ones who failed to enter standing around with a look on their face that denotes an ingrowing grudge. Talk it over with your team mates, and if one of them should develop a mulish disposition don't let that spoil your fun. If necessary use a substitute in his place.

If the entry list of the coming tournament is to be a record-breaker; don't forget, Mr. Bowler, that by sending in yours it will help toward that end. The City Association officials have taken up the slogan, "Let's make it fifty."

New York had its Madison Square Garden; Pittsburgh, Duquesne Garden, and Detroit, Wayne Pavilion to pull off the big tournaments in, but just wait until you glimpse your eyeballs on the Coliseum in St. Louis. The seating accommodations number around the 17,000 mark, and the plans must have been made by a man who was an advocate of the rest cure. At all other tournaments the seats have been constructed of nice, soft pine boards. After the local bowlers sit around in those plush-covered affairs in the

WILLIE HOPPE
Champion Billiard Player,
Will Give Exhibitions
at
THE ROYAL
1324 New York Ave.
MONDAY, DEC. 19
at 8:30 P. M.
TUESDAY, DEC. 20
at 2:30 and 8:30 P. M.
Reserved seats can be secured at The Royal.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE CRACK QUINT OF DISTRICT LEAGUE



Top row (left to right)—De Yo, Myers, Cooper. Bottom row—Garrett, Barber, Hamner, Collins.

Coliseum future tournament companies will be up against it. The demand will be for Morris chairs and sanitary couches. Maybe after some of us pull up with about 400 in the singles we won't find those seats inviting? The farther back the better.

The team or individual that send in their entry for the City Association's meet before the end of the month will be helping the tournament committee to an appreciable extent. Remember that old maxim, "He who hesitates is lost."

A movement is on foot among a few of the bowlers to have a mixed double event carded for the first week of the local tournament. The writer has been assured of no less than four entries should it go through, two from the Ingram Memorial Church, one from the Arcade, and one from the old District League. Here is one of the best opportunities ever offered to the tournament committee to do its best.

Looking back over the scores and records of the first, second, and third annual tournaments held by the City Association reveals the fact that for some unaccountable reason the names of many men who had participated in these first three events were conspicuous by their absence from the entry list of the 1910 tournament. If those same men were out of the game nothing would be thought of it, but a careful perusal of the scores each day shows that they are still in the game and as good as ever. The biggest failure of the season was the old G. P. O. crowd. We are going to go a step over bounds, regardless of the tournament committee, and appoint "Fat" Walsh, "Billy" Norbeck, Lednum, and "Phil" Nachman a special committee to whom things up. Any one else who can stir up a little enthusiasm can consider himself a committee of one, and rest assured that his efforts will be appreciated.

During the past two weeks the scores have shown a tendency to soar skyward. Sam Auguste caused a commotion by getting his annual high game in the Departmental by posting 27. Page then pulled up with a count of 25 in the Sunday School, but some pluck. Not to be outdone, Eddie McKnew got in the drives and piled up a big set with the aid of a 26 game in the first District. At the present time the calcium light of the District—whatever that is—turned upon "Bilby" Warren, who, not satisfied with 258, wound up his set with 238 and 294. Go ahead, fellows, pile 'em up. We're with you, everybody!

How would you like to have been a member of one of the teams when the District League was organized back in 1907? In those days it was the custom of the four teams—the league membership being only four—to meet at the same place on the same night, the home team rolling one game with each of the visiting teams. This naturally tended to develop the social possibilities of the game, since all the league players would meet at one time. This may have been all to the "mustard," provided they had nine spotters, but nowadays it would take about four hours to pull this off.

Speaking of the District League being organized in 1907, how many bowlers are there in the city who are aware of the fact that one of the three men who put this league under way seventeen years ago is still doing business with the pins in the Colonial? The number, no doubt, can be counted on the fingers of both hands. Modesty alone has kept this bowler from advertising the part he has played in the local game, and his many friends would have forever remained in ignorance of the fact that the writer not been delving through past records of the league. In an issue of a local paper of November, 1907, appears an article in which it was stated that the bowler in question, together with Will Love and Jack Jones, had secured a meeting at the Columbia Athletic Club and formed a tenpin league to be known as the District of Columbia Bowling League, the teams being the Columbia Athletic Club, Young Men's Catholic Club, Carroll Institute, and the Washington Athletic Club. If Henry Chadwick earned the title of "father of baseball," then Dr. Ricker has more than earned the title of "father of Washington bowlers," for it was none other than the gentleman who played such an important part in putting this league under way. Here's hoping the doctor will still be in the game in 1927.

Among bowlers you will find quite a few who are adepts at the billiard game, Monday and Tuesday nights Willie Hoppe, the greatest billiard player the game has ever known, will give an exhibition at the Royal of fancy shots that are said to be hair-raising. It's a little bit of luck that the city does not possess a player who can make the match interesting; but bring him around to some of our local bowling alleys and we will show him a few kinds of English on a miniature that has got what you can put on a cue ball beat a block. As for fancy shots, wonder if he can pull off one that looks any more spectacular than picking 5 off 9 when the game is close?

Milwaukee will send a big delegation to St. Louis in an effort to land the 1912 convention of the American Bowling Congress. When the "Home Boogie" was the host in 1906 those who attended were shown the time of their life. There was some talk prior to the former St.

Louis tournament of switching it to the Wisconsin city at the last moment. Take it from us; but there is not a man in Washington who attended the 1906 convention who would not be glad to see them get the next one.

DEPARTMENTAL BOWLING LEAGUE AVERAGES.

TEAM	STANDING	G.	W.	L.	Pct.
Agriculture	1	24	16	8	.667
Commissioners	2	14	10	4	.500
Bureau	3	14	10	4	.500
Navy	4	14	10	4	.500
Treasury	5	14	10	4	.500
Commerce	6	14	10	4	.500
Interior	7	14	10	4	.500
War	8	14	10	4	.500

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DIAMOND LEAGUE NOTES.

The boys will have a chance to rest up during the next two weeks, as no more games are scheduled until January 3, 1911.

Capt. Heilmüller, of the Carrow, has added much strength to his team, in signing up a southpaw by the name of Sparrow.

The officers wish all members of the league a merry Christmas and happy New Year, and hope that everybody will have an even more successful year next year, than they have had in the past.

Weyrick did not roll up to his standard in his last set against the Topaz. We know how you feel when you keep getting split after split, but keep plugging "Jack," they are bound to come your way before long.

Glasser, of the Agates, is also a member of the Nationals, of the National Capital Bowling League. His set of 125-38, for a total of 227, had much to do with his team winning three games from the Topaz quint. This is his first year in the league, and he gives promise of developing into one of Washington's stars.

The Topaz team seems to be in a slump, having won but three games out of the last nine played, which is something unusual for this team, but the best of us are bound to have that slump now and then. A little more life among the boys would help a whole lot. "Don't get discouraged."

The contest scheduled between the Pearls and Rubys was rolled last Tuesday night, resulting in a victory for the former team, by taking two games out of three. President Rogers had an off night, but promises to do better next time out. The Ruby team is also out for revenge, and Capt. Borden and his team-mates say that things will be the opposite when these two teams clash again, which will be after the holidays. As the series now stands, the Pearls have won four out of six, and both teams are having a hot race for first place.

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Truck	1	24	16	8	.667
Northern	2	14	10	4	.500
Columbia	3	14	10	4	.500
Northeastern	4	14	10	4	.500
Southern	5	14	10	4	.500
Eastern	6	14	10	4	.500
Mechanical	7	14	10	4	.500
Lighting Co.	8	14	10	4	.500

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Stanh. Truck	1	24	16	8	.667
Washington, Columbia	2	14	10	4	.500
Stimex, Northeastern	3	14	10	4	.500
Miller, North	4	14	10	4	.500
Coole, Lighting Co.	5	14	10	4	.500
Wynkoop, Eastern	6	14	10	4	.500
Werner, Mechanical	7	14	10	4	.500
White, Southern	8	14	10	4	.500

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